

At the Zoo







First Edition 1980

Foreign Languages Press
24 Baiwanzhuang Road, Beijing, China
Printed in the People's Republic of China



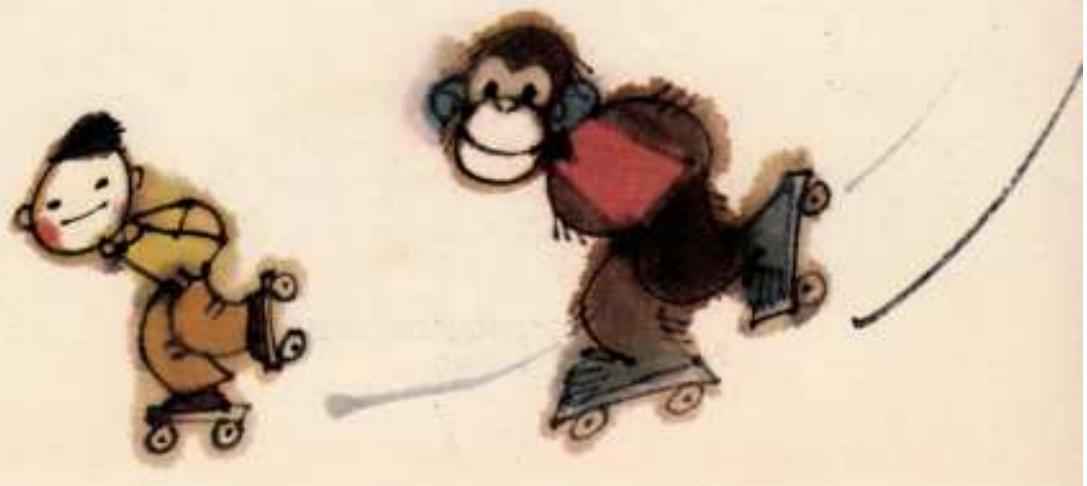
At the Zoo

Verses by Lin Songying

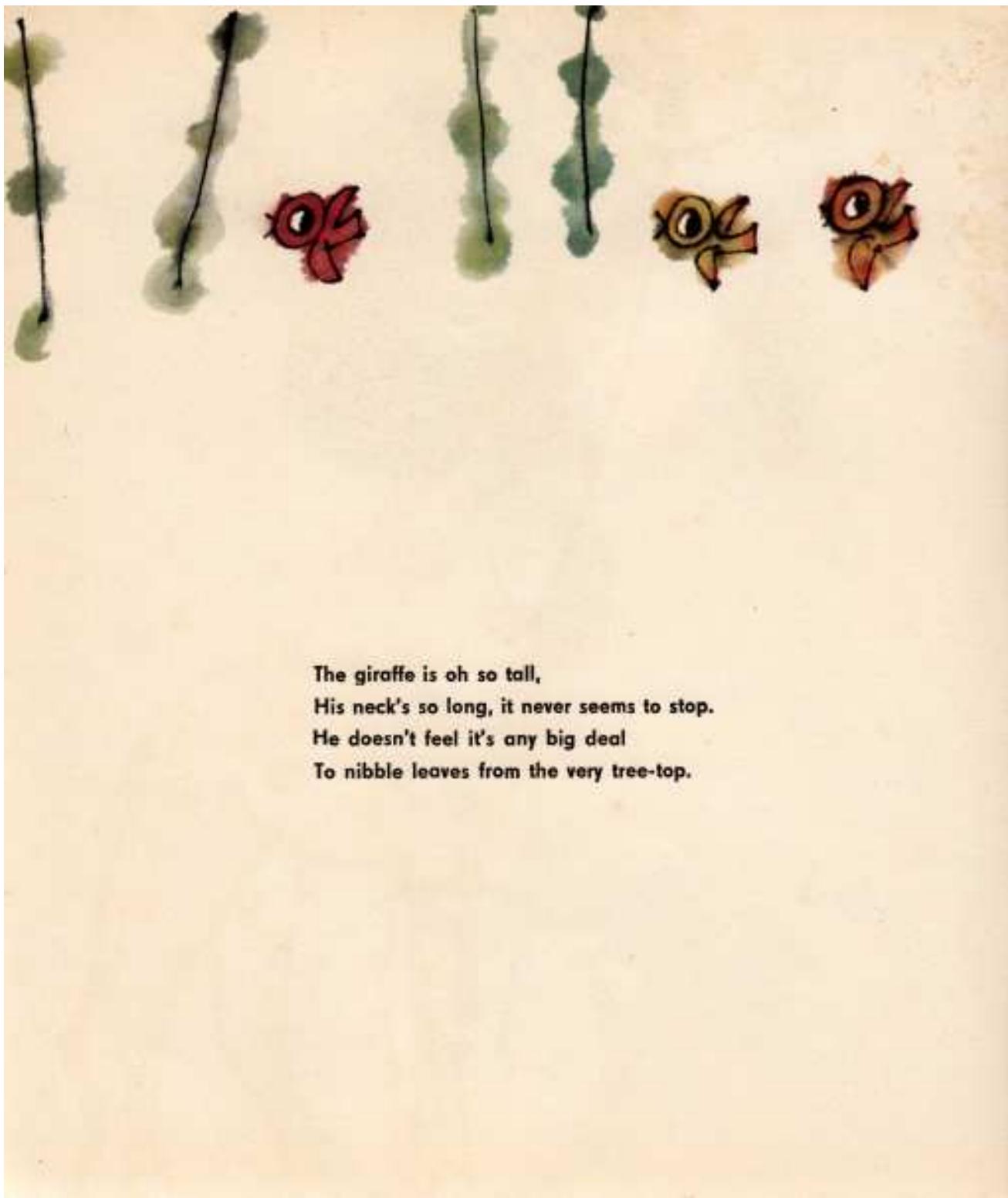
Illustrations by Zhan Tongxuan

FOREIGN LANGUAGES PRESS
BEIJING

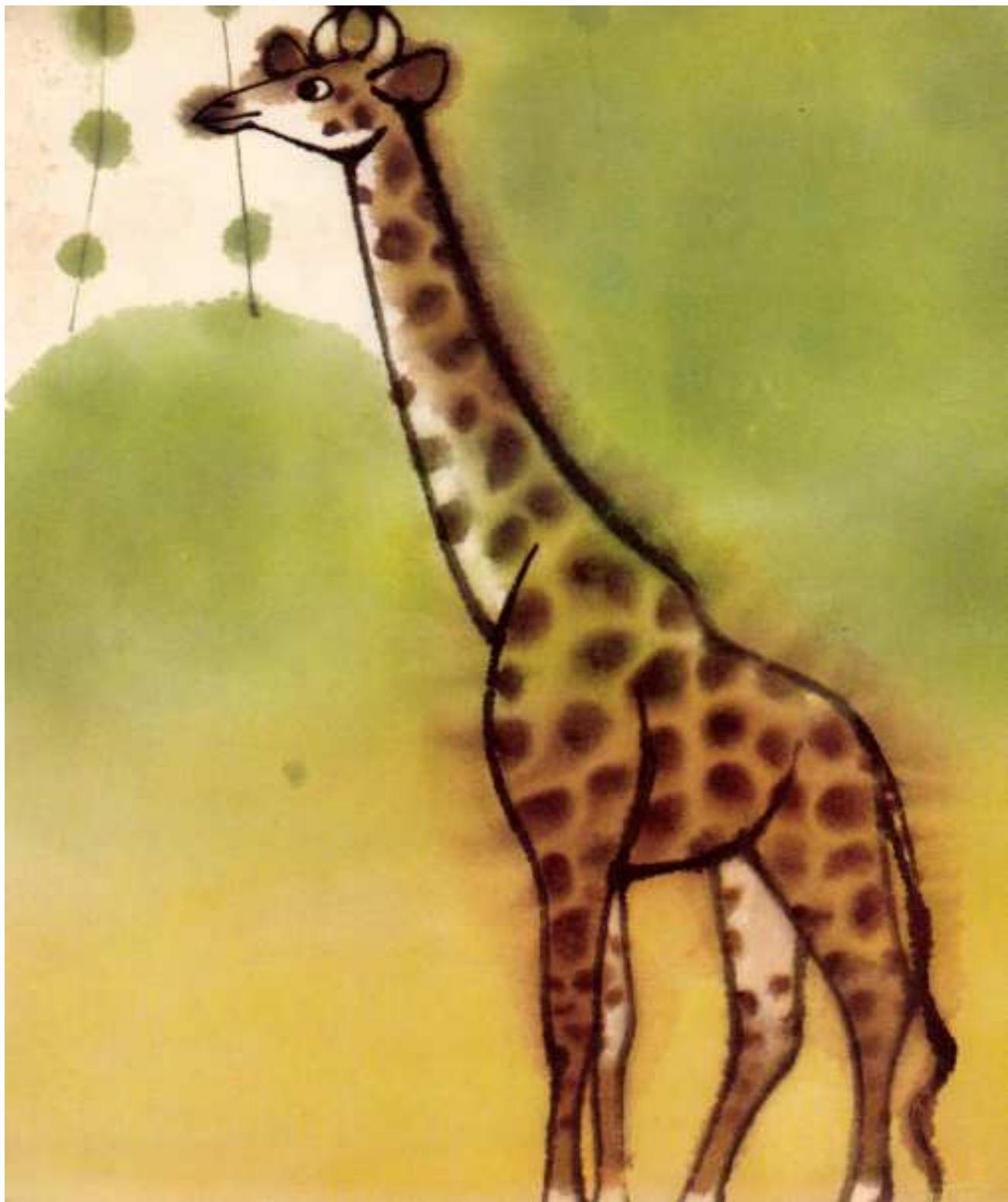
Very clever is the chimpanzee,
He's quick at learning to skate,
And quite at ease on a unicycle,
Cutting capers from morning till late.





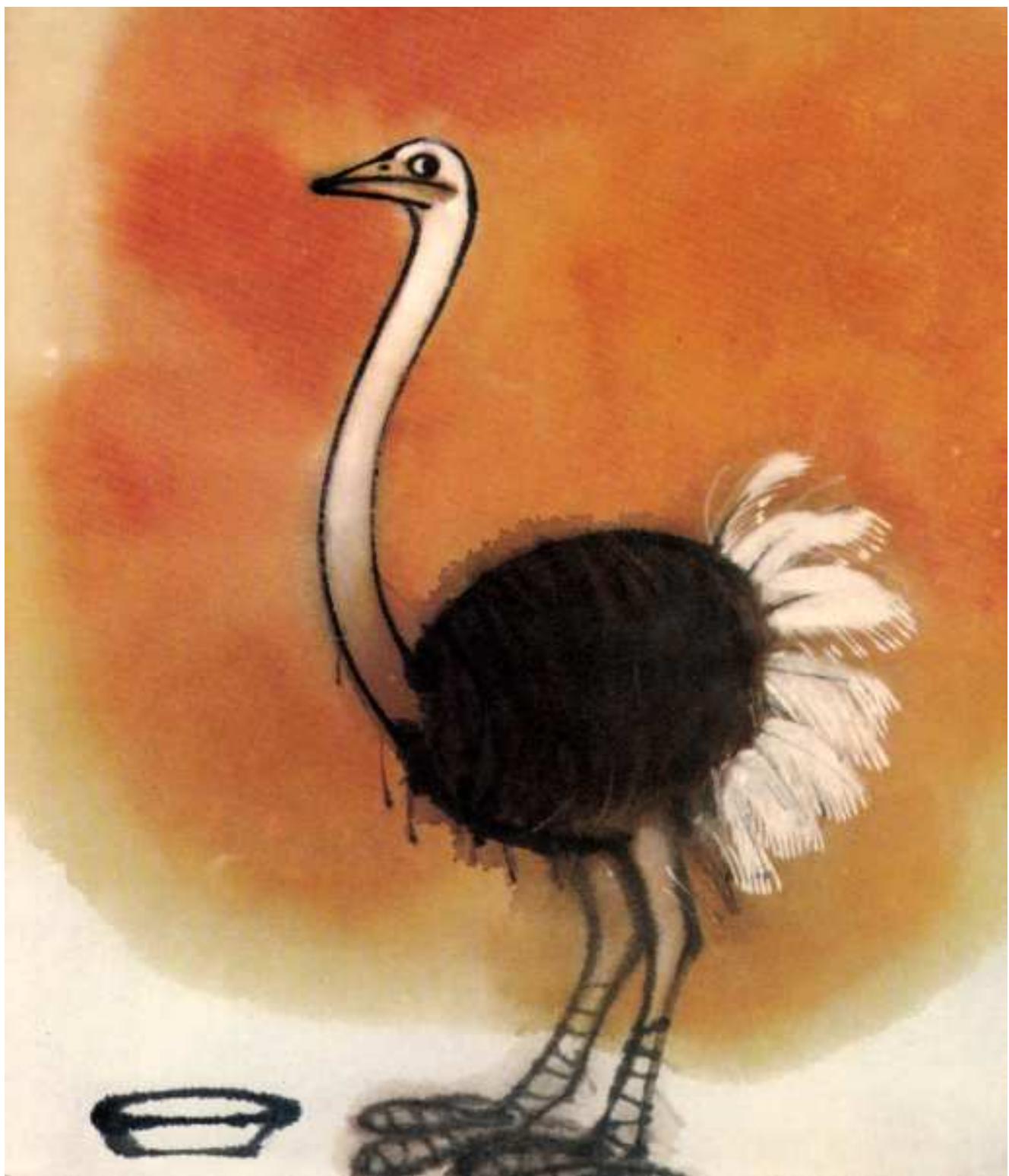


The giraffe is oh so tall,
His neck's so long, it never seems to stop.
He doesn't feel it's any big deal
To nibble leaves from the very tree-top.





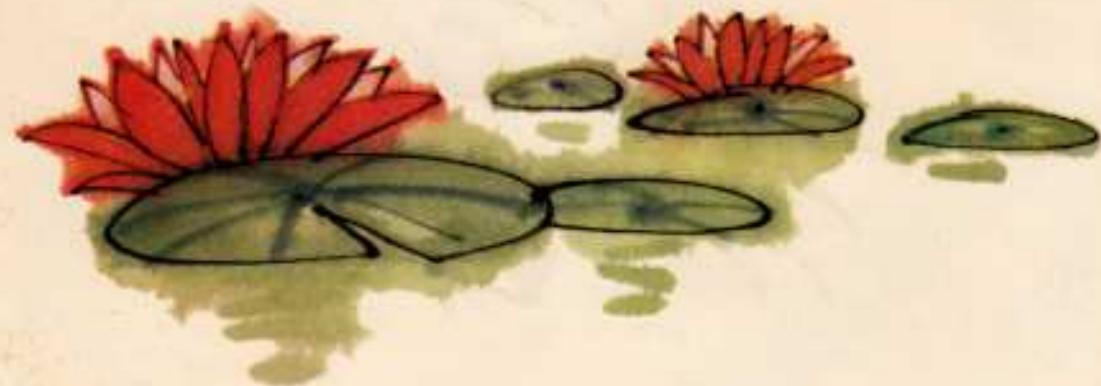
The ostrich is a strange bird indeed.
Taller than a man, it can't fly but only run.
The egg it lays is so huge
That several children seem unable to finish it at one go.



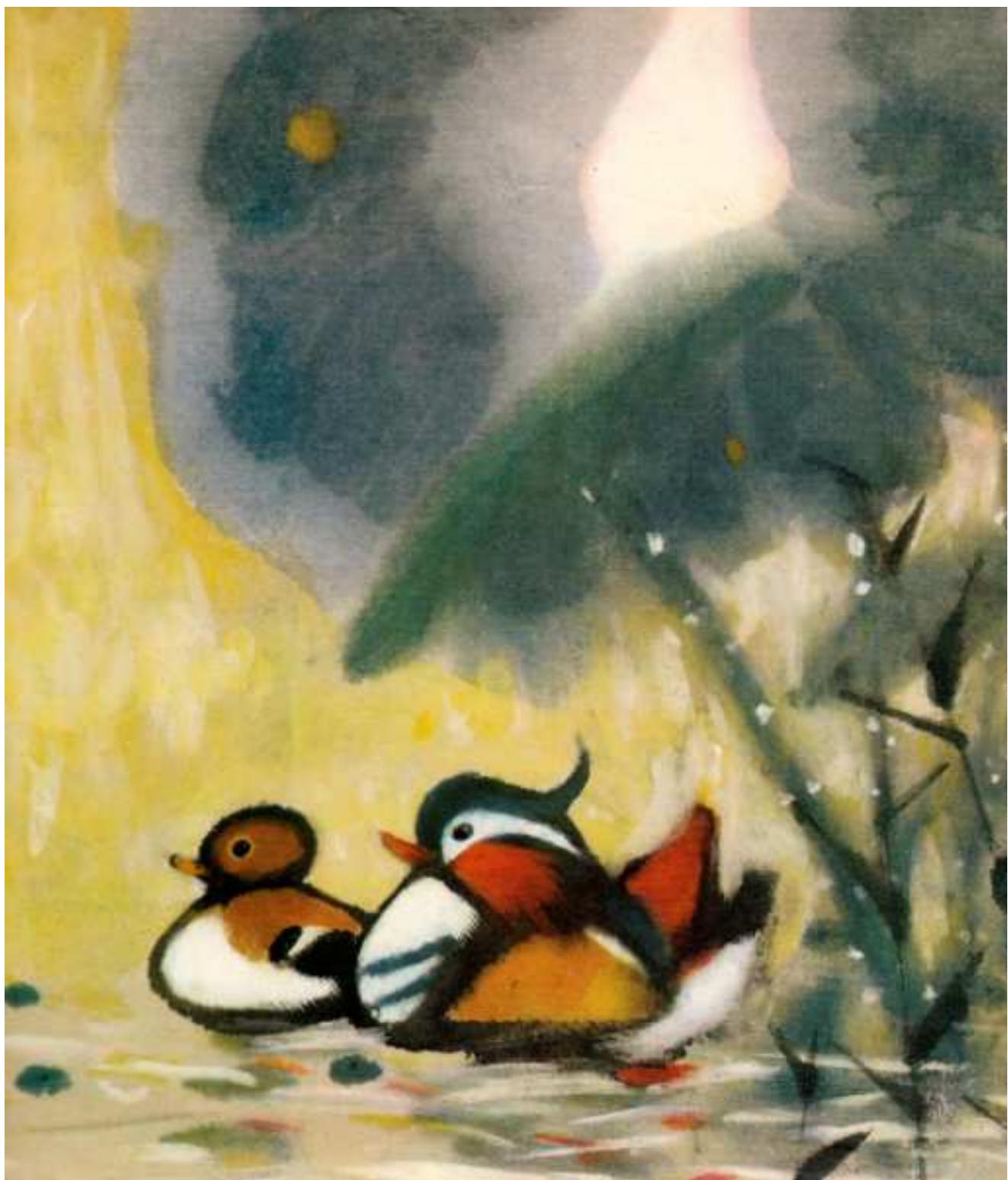




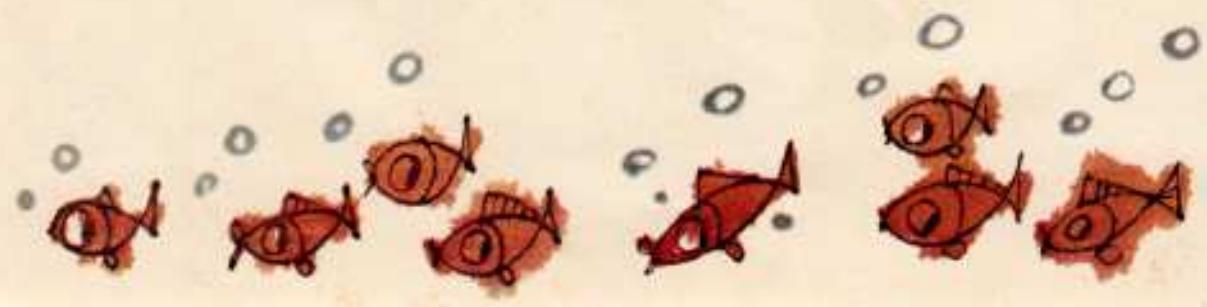
The badger digs a hole for his new house
And lives comfortably in the ground.
Of grass and leaves he makes a bed,
And sleeps soundly, snoring all the night.



Mandarin ducks are always in pairs,
They're never alone, either swimming or flying.
In spring they fly to the north,
And fly back to the south in the fall.



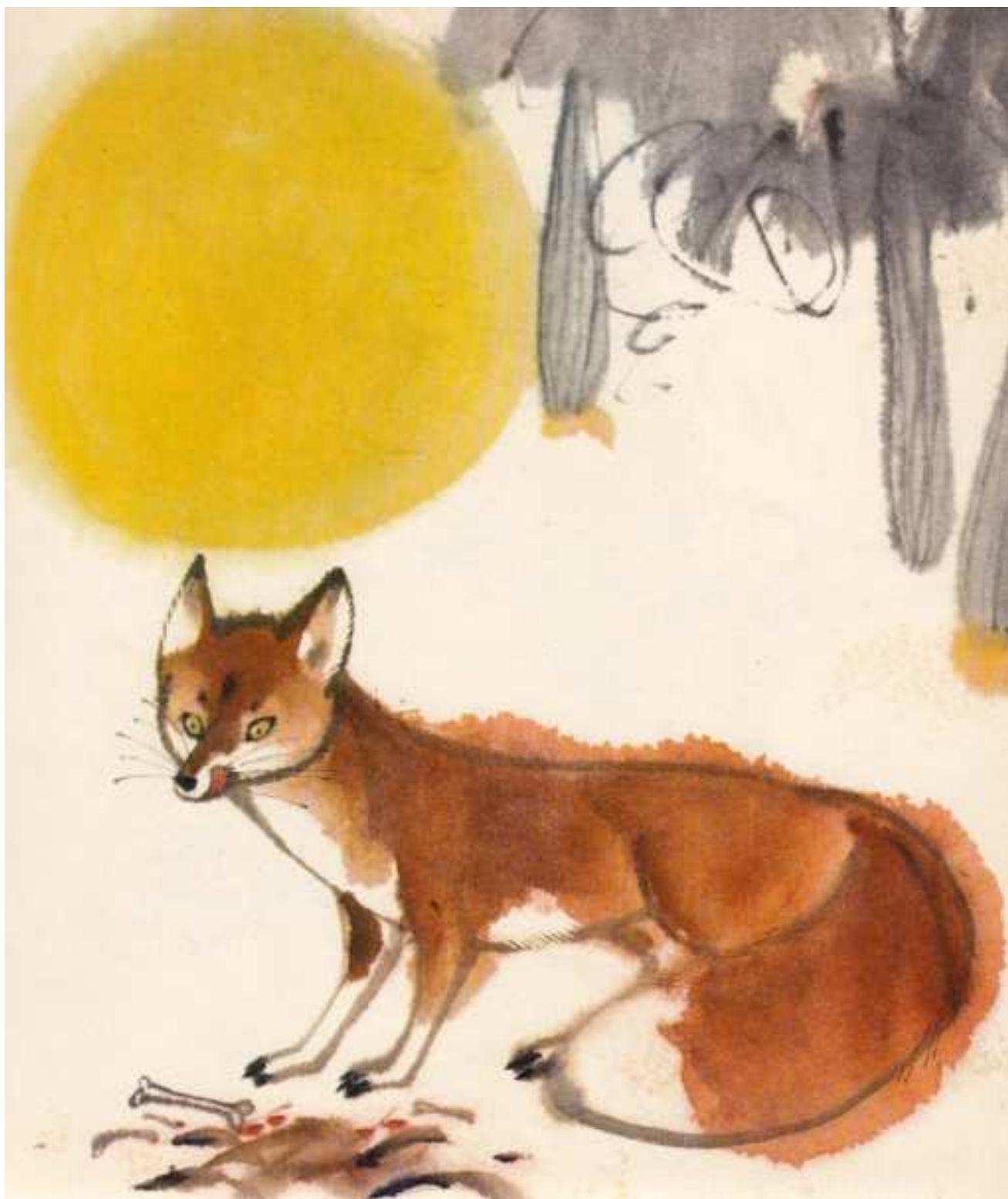
The egret stands on legs like stilts,
Looking into the water with staring eyes.
When little fishes pass by, he's very spry
And catches them for his dinner.





The fox is a sly one,
He makes rabbits and chickens sad.
Very lightly he walks, this cunning fox,
He has ideas in his head that are very bad.





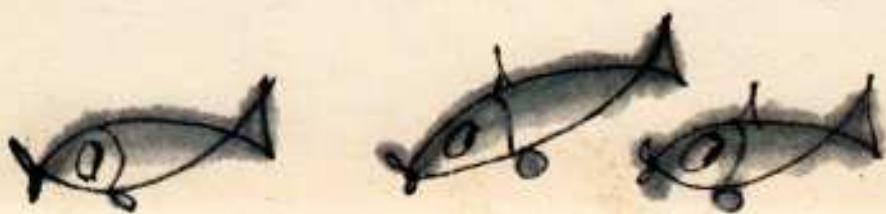


The owl does his work at night,
Perched on a branch, his eyes open wide.
When out of its house there comes a mouse,
He swoops down and it's got no place to hide.

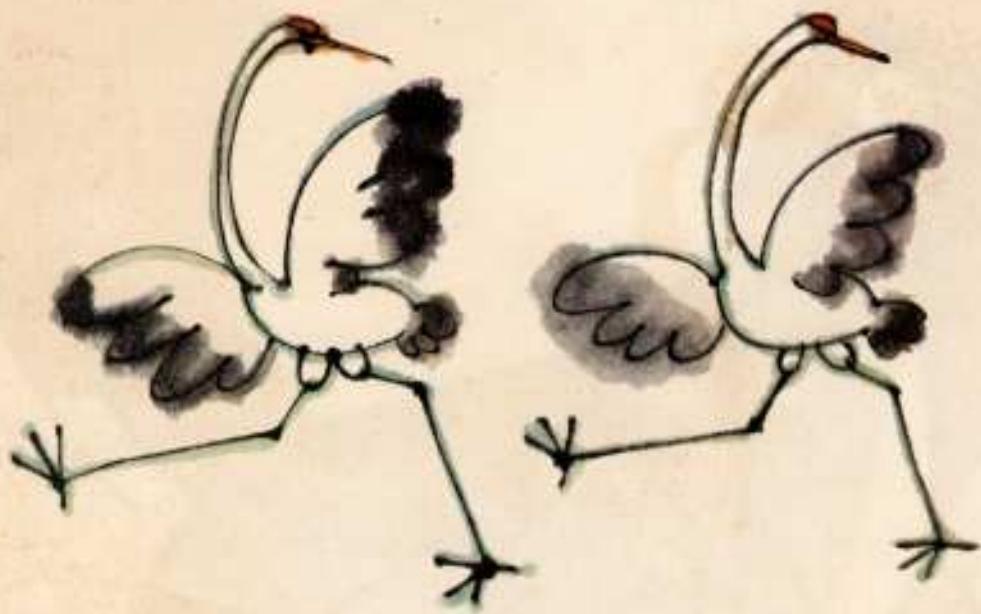




The seal plays about on a slab of ice,
Its four short legs look like oars.
Putong! With a splash, it's gone in a flash,
Busy all day catching fish.







The red-crowned cranes are long-legged too,
And wear crimson hats.
See how they swing as they sing
And how with their wings do flappings.

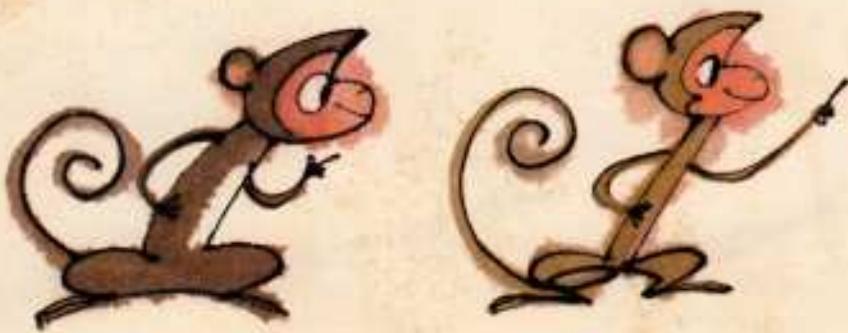




**Little kingfisher is another bird,
That likes fish and shrimp to eat.
She never swims but always skims,
Fishing in the river with her long beak.**

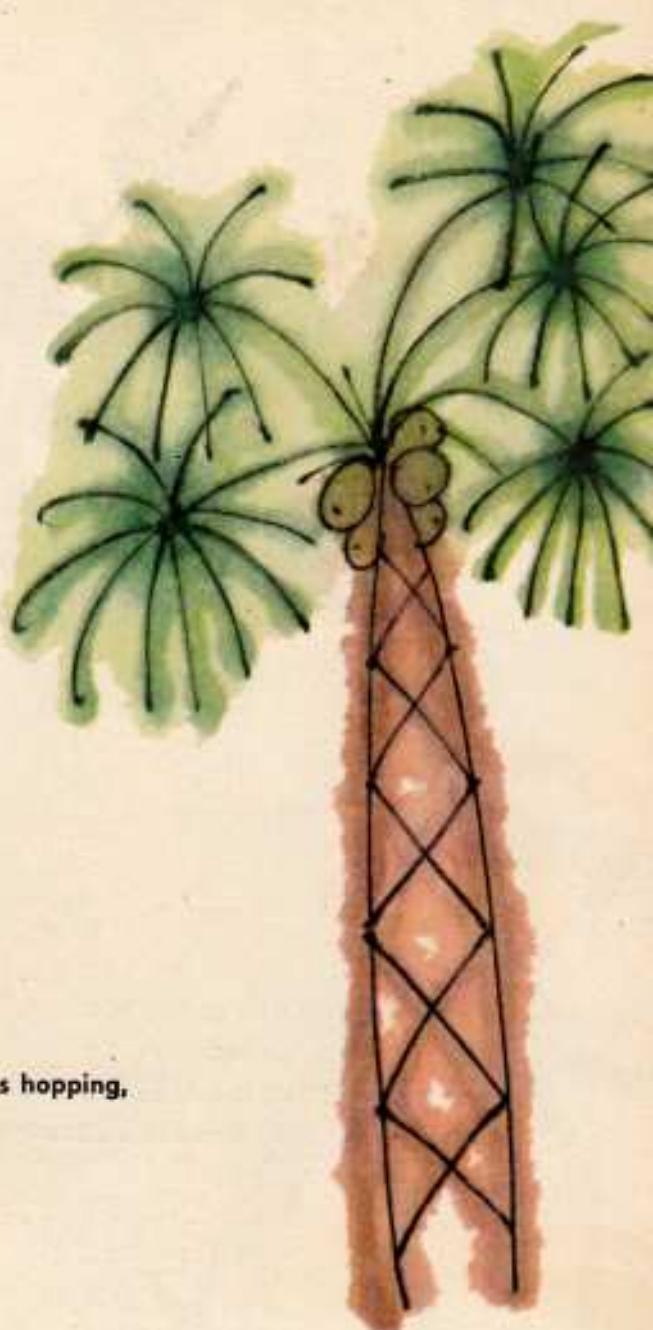


Golden monkeys have long shining hair;
China is where they live.
Look at this one! Snub nose, blue face, what a pose!
Pleasure and amusement are what it gives.

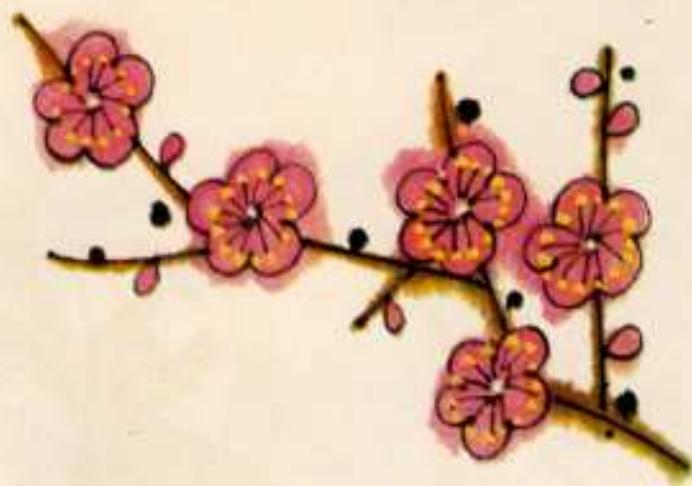




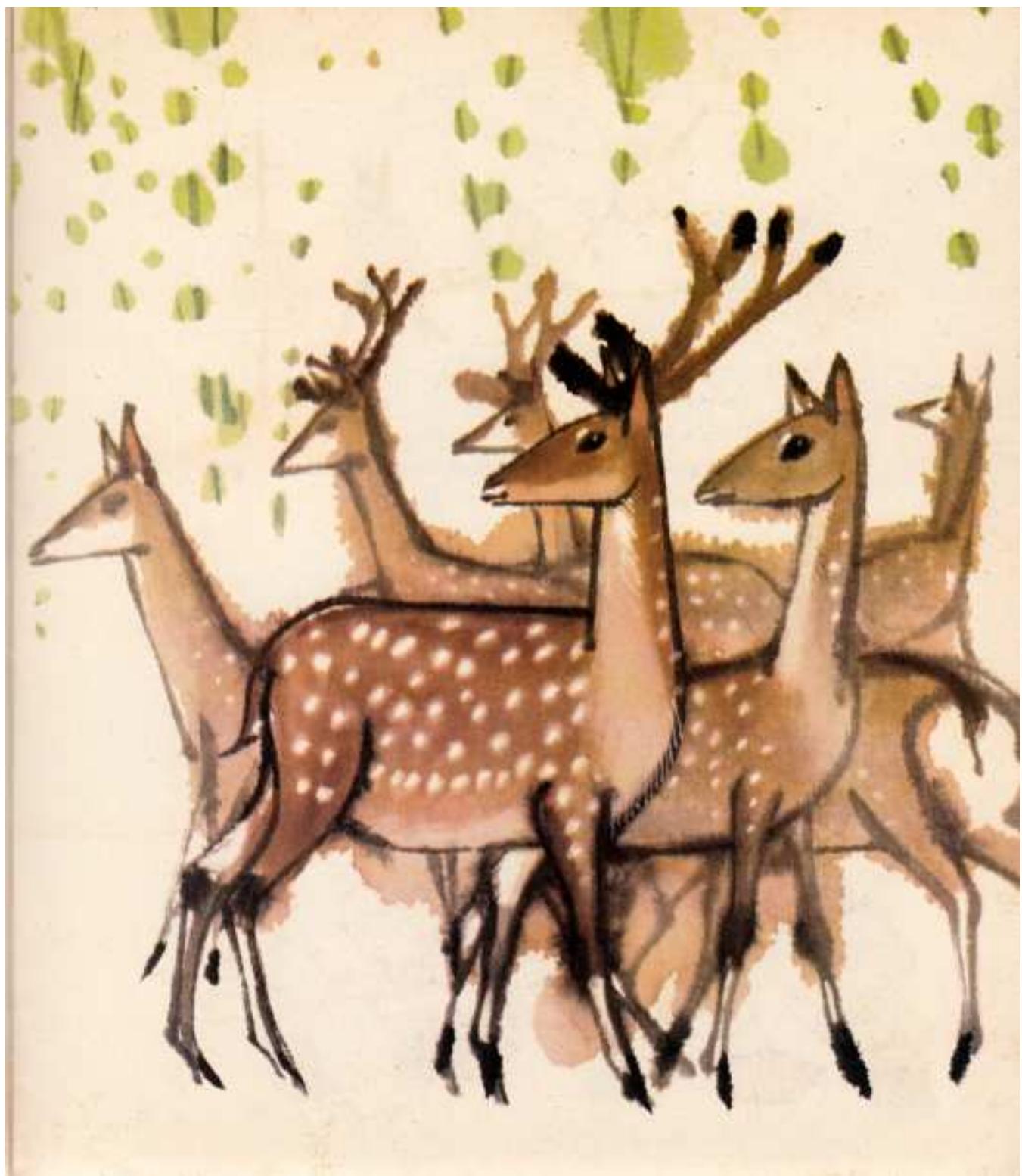




**Mama kangaroo is very strange,
She has a pocket on her tummy.
But it's not for carrying shopping when she's hopping,
But her child, and not anything yummy.**

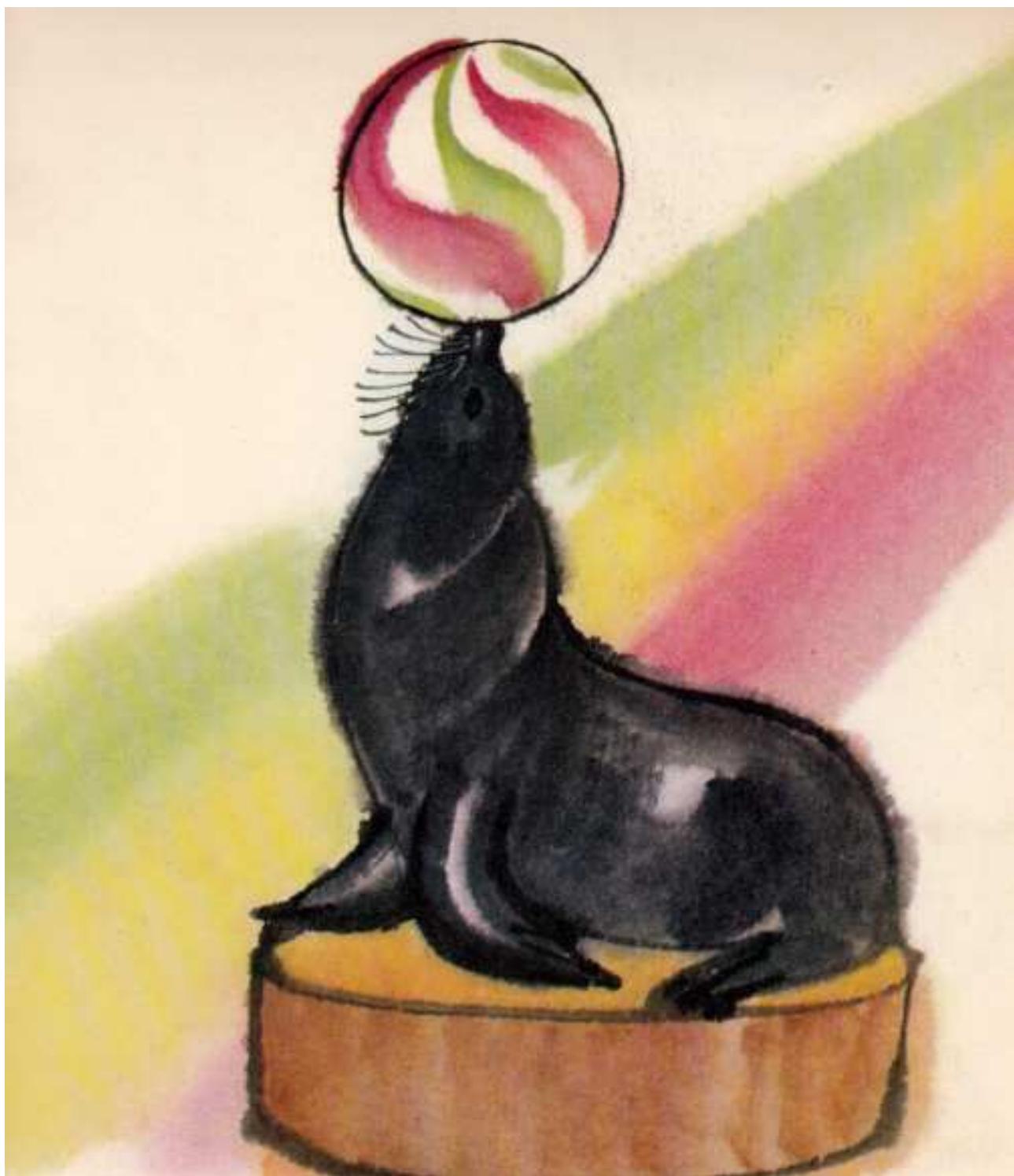


The spotted deer with stumpy tails
Have big horns like branches.
Their hairy red pelt is soft as felt,
And the white spots look like blossoming plum flowers.



The chubby sea lion
Twirls a ball on its nose.
As a performer, he always wins warm applause,
Children clap their hands after all its shows.





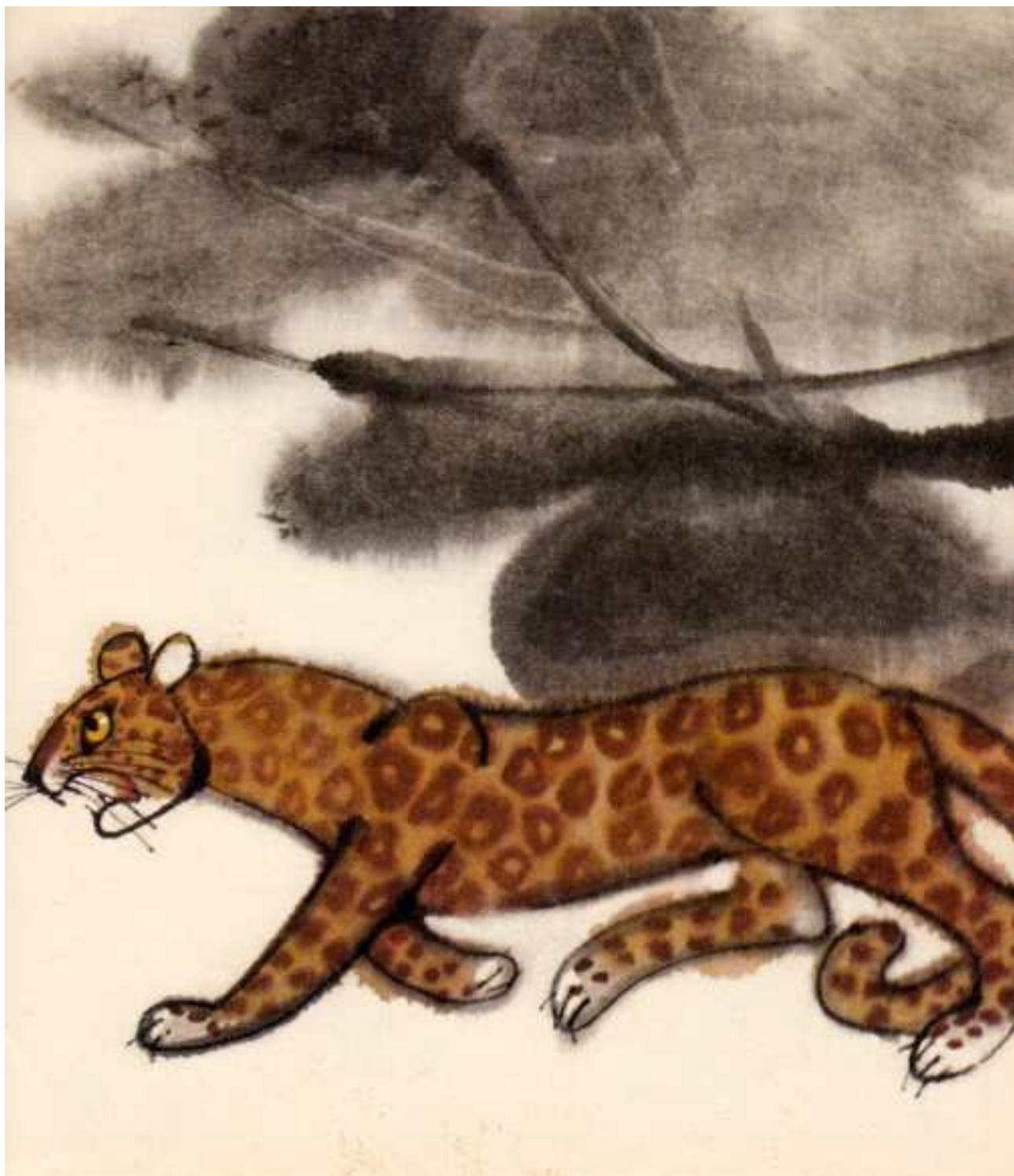




Look! In the lions' den.
Mama appears shorn,
While papa in his ruff looks tough,
And their cub's been spotted since it was born.

Leopard in yellow coat and dark spots
May be very beautiful to see.
But as a rule, it's fierce and cruel;
Deer and rabbits in its path had better not be.







White rabbit with extra long ears
Lives on greens and turnips.
With red eyes and hare-lip,
It hops and jumps and always seems to be pleased.

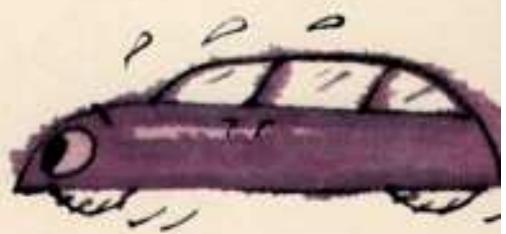
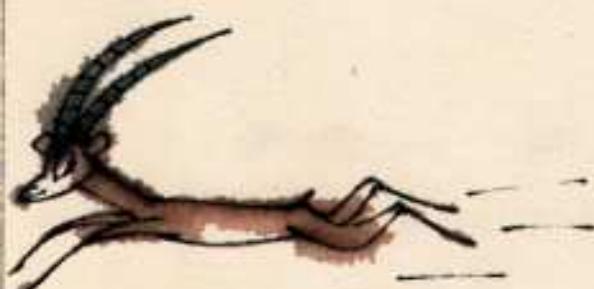




The peacock is a lovely bird.
It likes to spread its tail,
Colours splendid, gold and silver blended
In a fan as big as a sail.



Little antelope is on the alert,
Listening carefully as it feeds.
At the sound of feet it's very fleet,
And far away it speeds.





The panda bear is an animal really rare.
Its home is China and it's a treasure.
Fresh bamboo it loves to chew,
And watching it is a pleasure.





The hedgehog, prickly all over with spines,
Eats fruits and insects.
A timid soul, into a ball it will roll
Whenever meeting its foe.





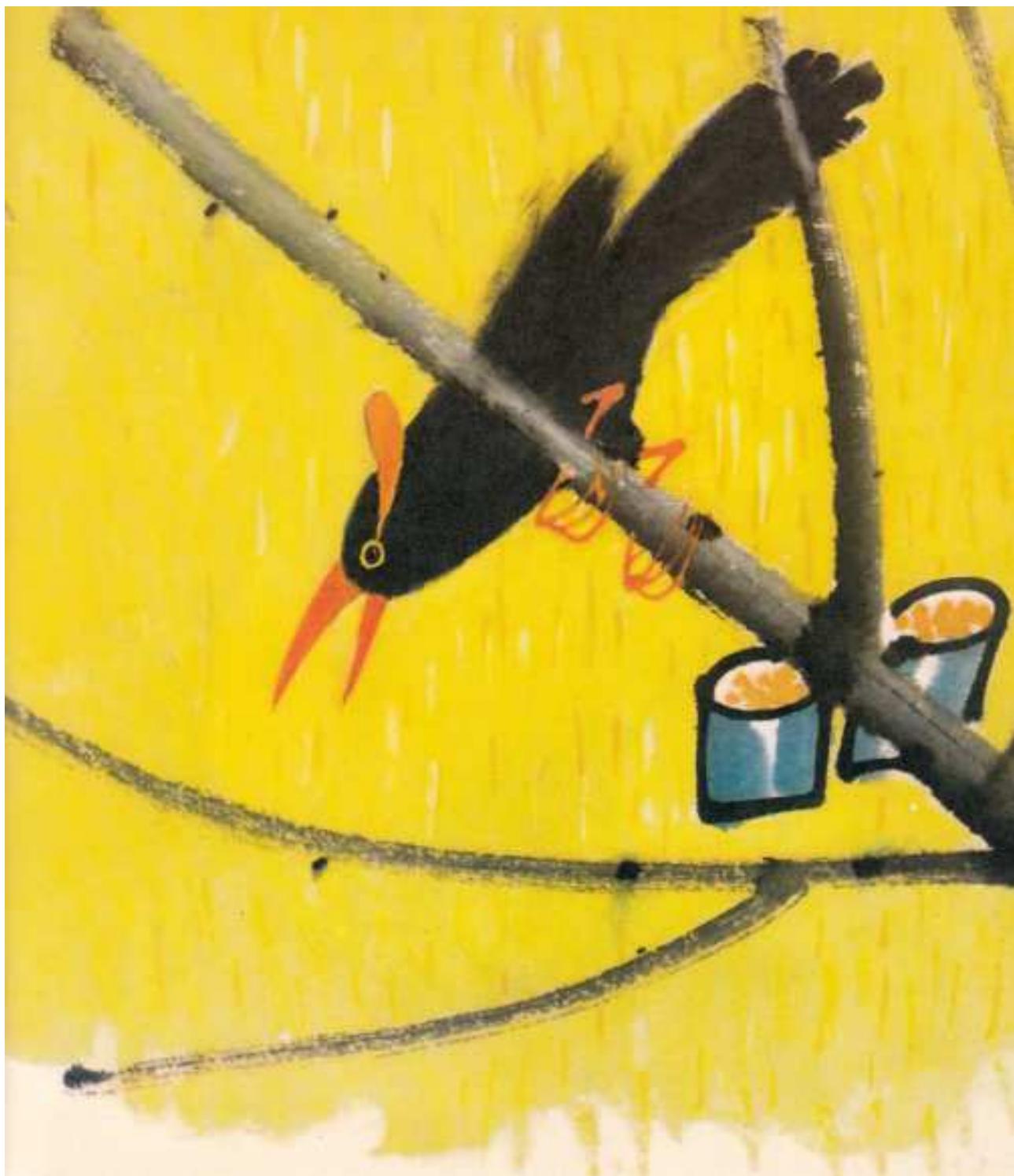


A hippo is like a little isle
Standing in the river.
A pail of potatoes or even tomatoes,
Is far from enough to be a meal.



The myna's got a clever mouth,
It hears a cat and says "meow",
A rooster crows, "cock-a-doodle-do" it goes,
And to people it says, "How do you do!"









Lovely snow-white swans
Fly high in a line.
Over mountains and nature's fountains,
They are like floating white clouds in the sky.

Little black bear with his sweet tooth,
Climbs a tree after honey.
Don't get stung, better run
Or it won't be so funny.





A camel is useful on the desert,
It tanks up and then treks for days.
A storm alarm, and it comes to no harm
For it kneels and no wind can it faze.

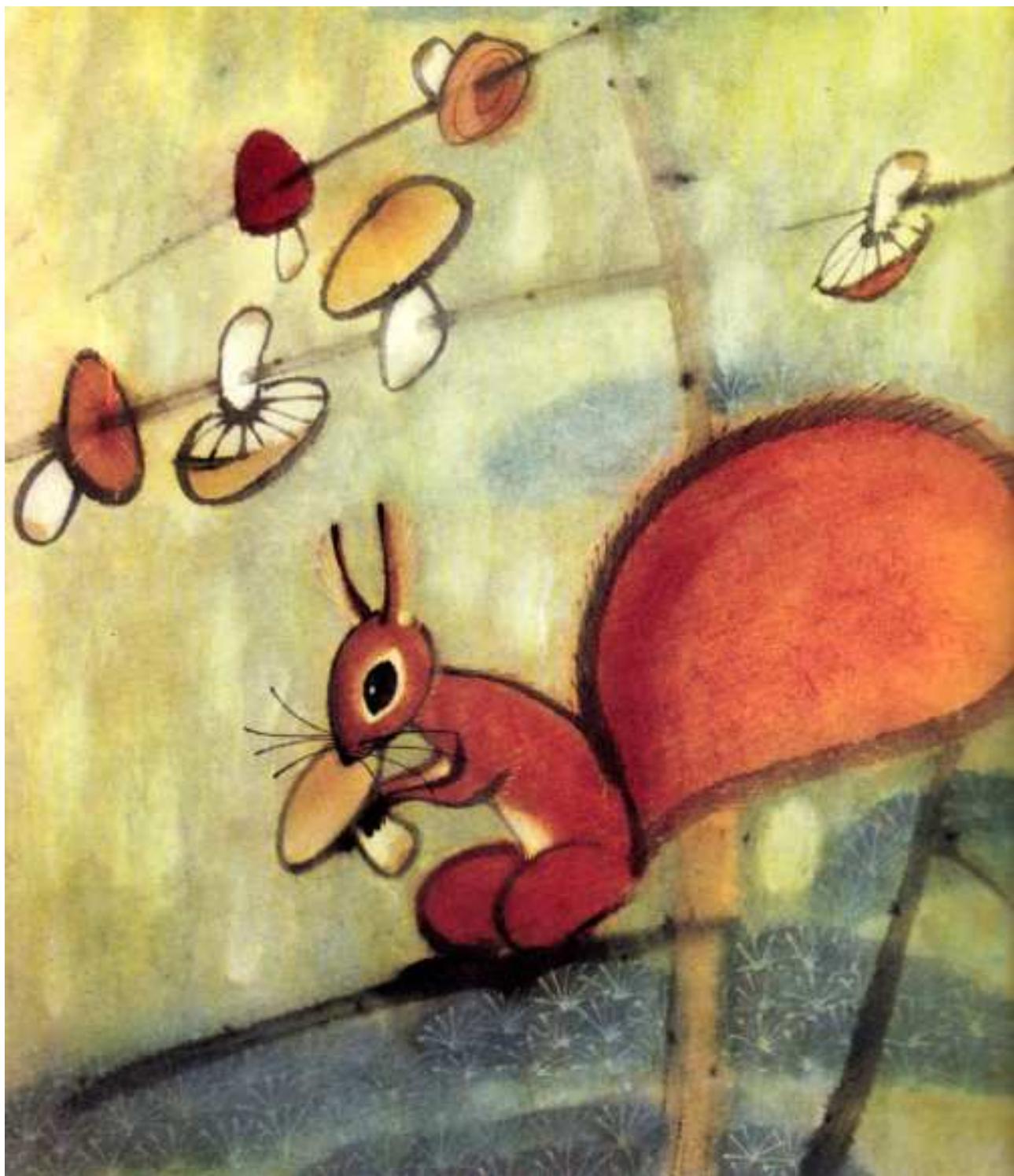




The beaver digs a home with its teeth,
And then very busily fishes,
Then the family members go inside and rest side by side,
Still chewing on delicious fish dishes.

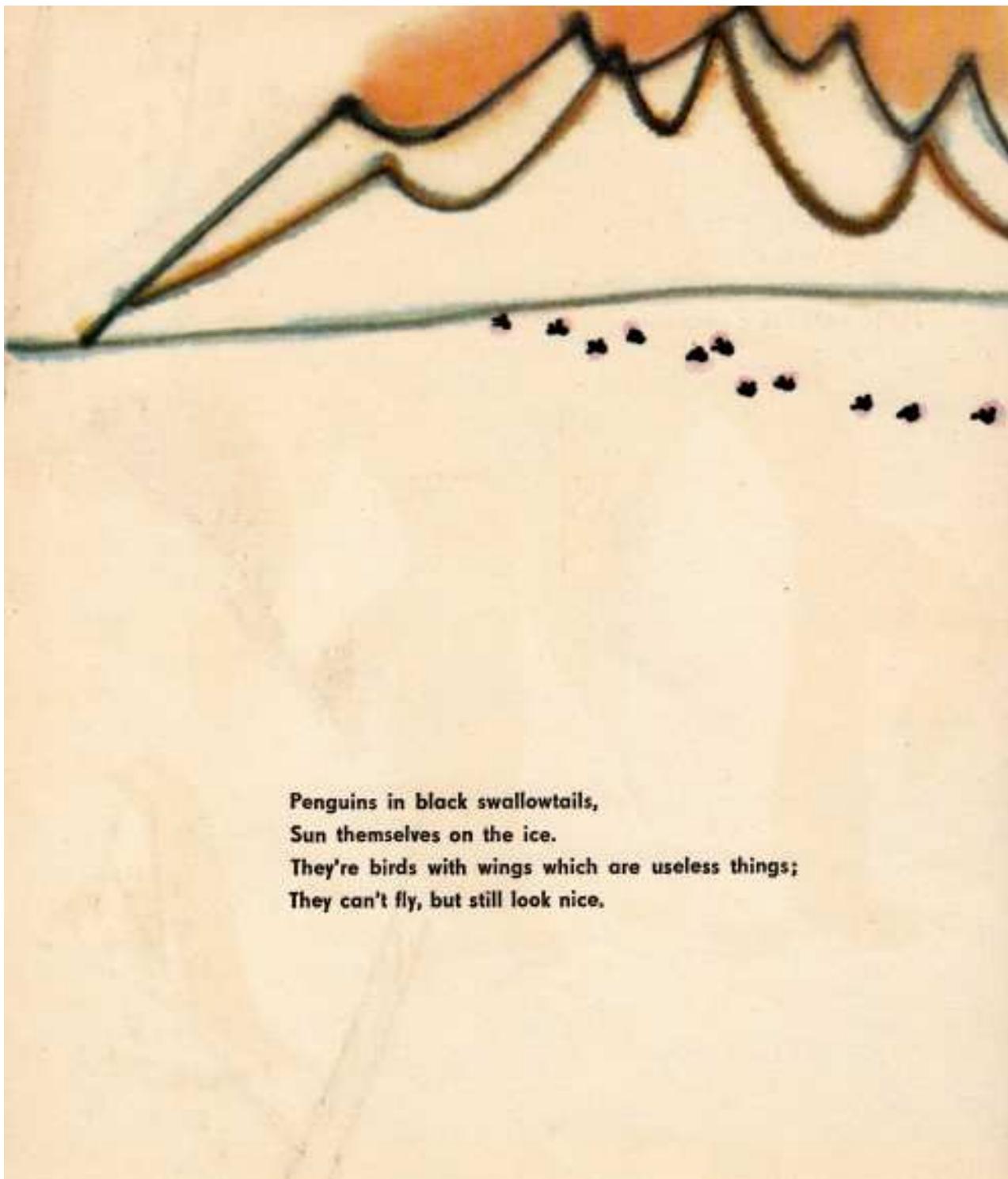




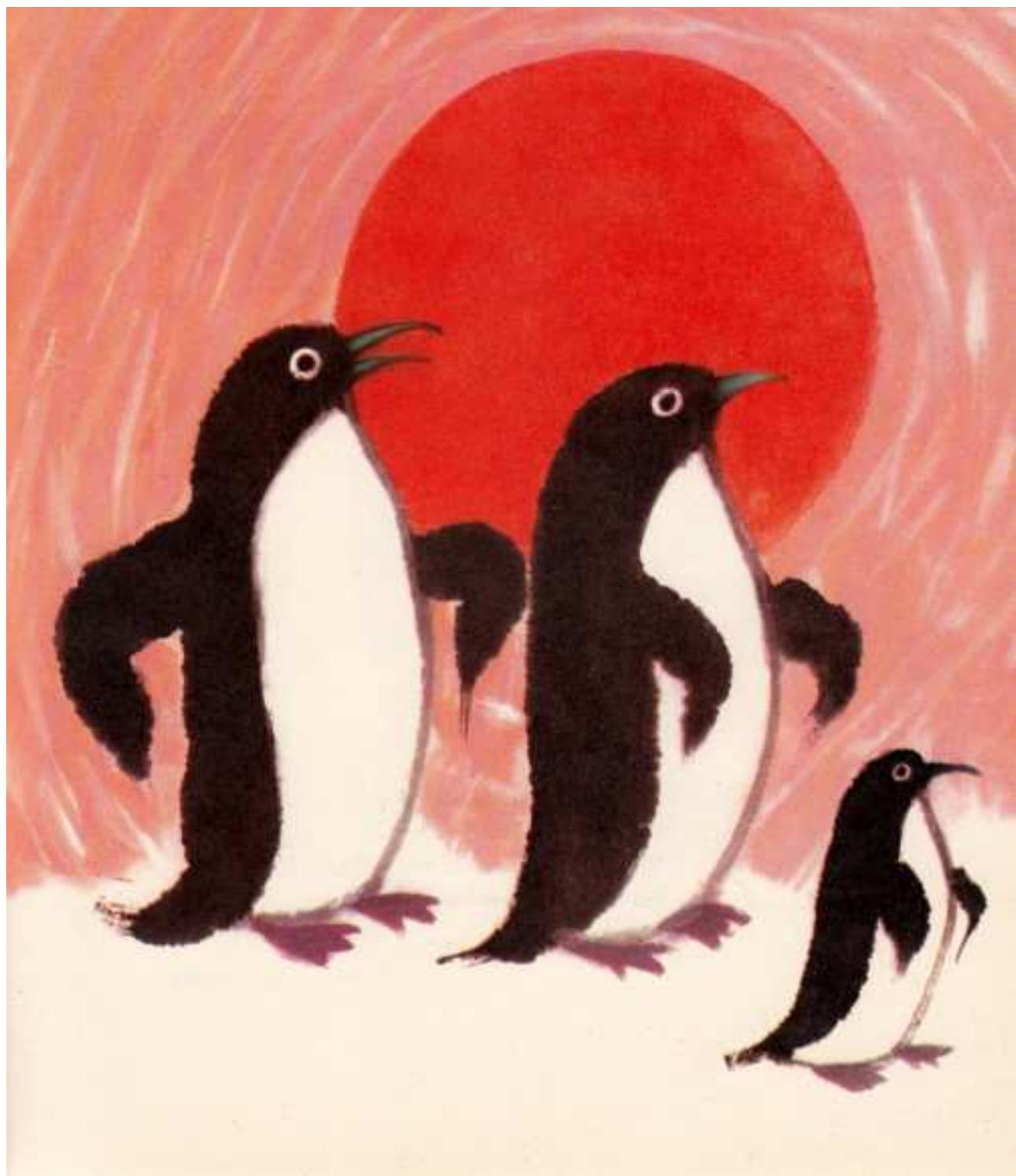


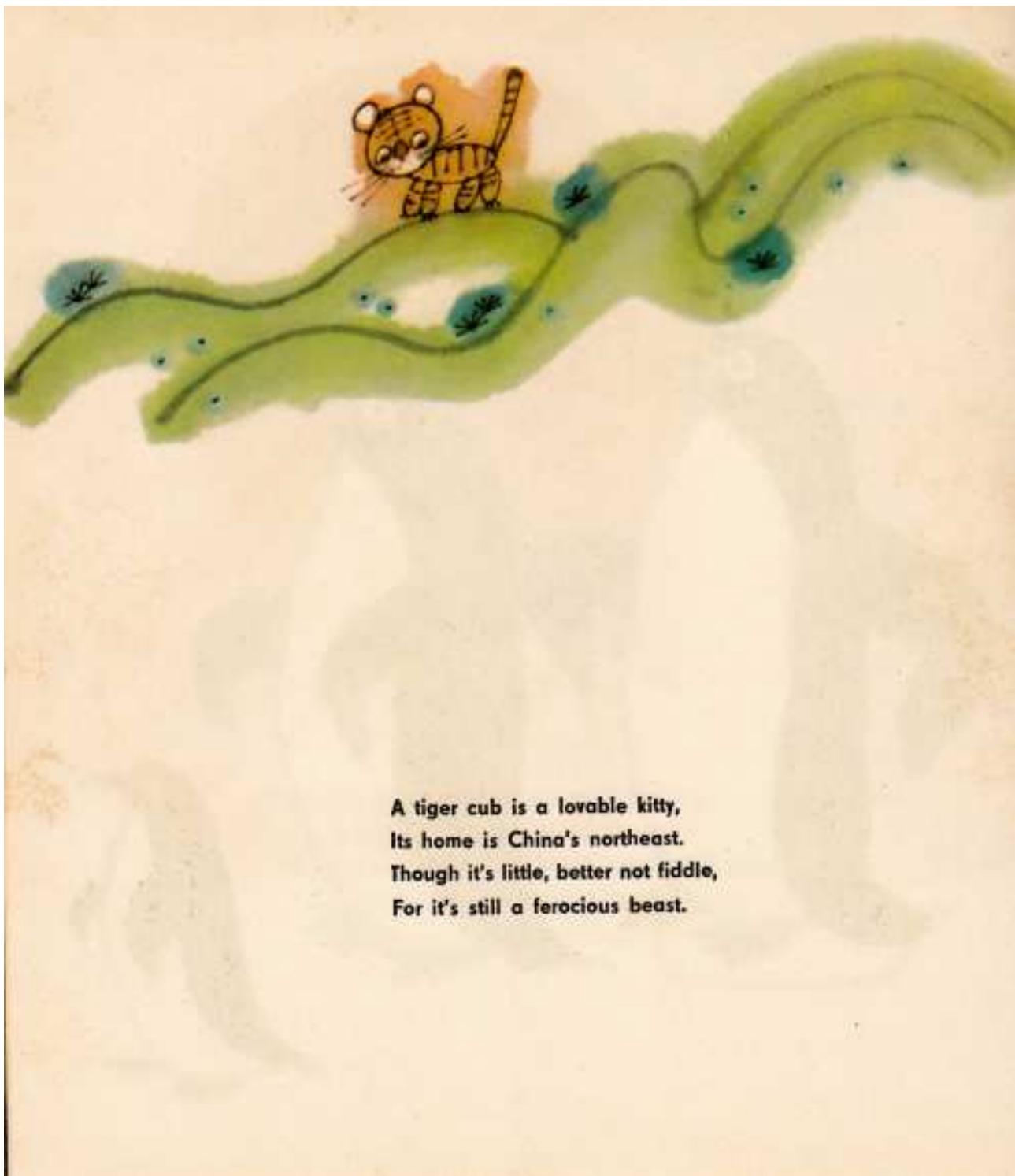
Little squirrel plays in the trees,
Leaping about, it's cute.
It puts on a spurt but can't be hurt,
For its tail's like a parachute.



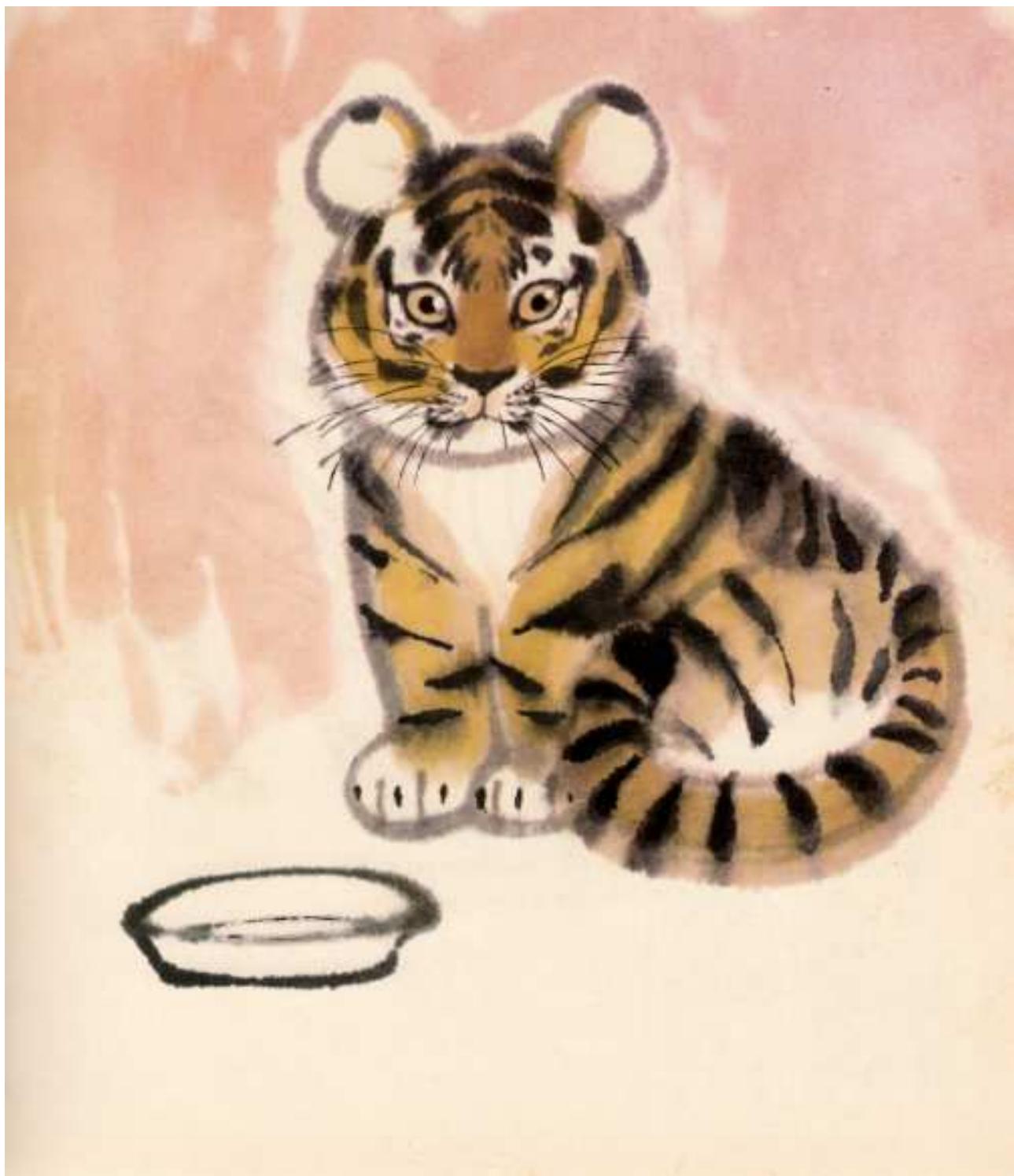


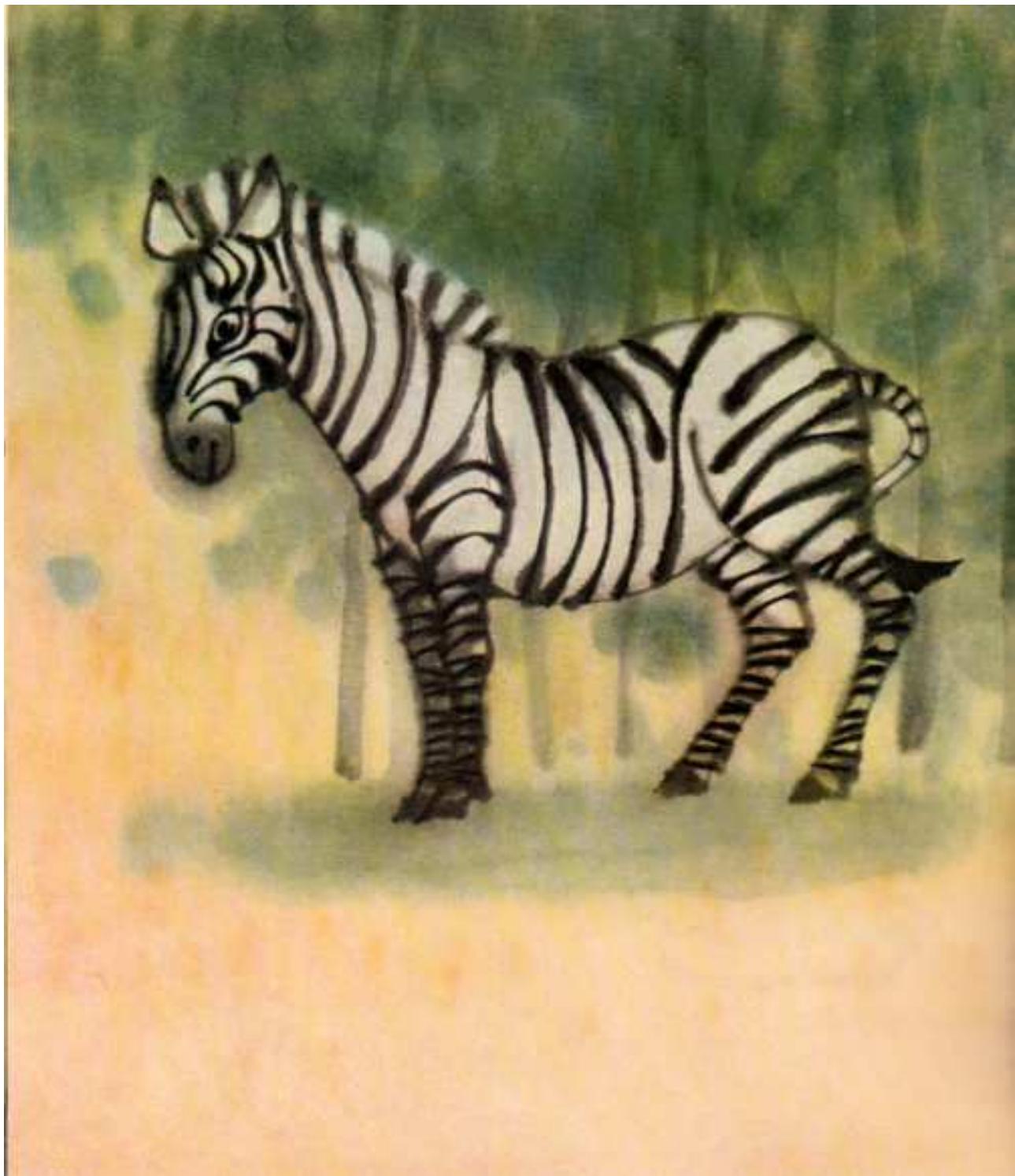
Penguins in black swallowtails,
Sun themselves on the ice.
They're birds with wings which are useless things;
They can't fly, but still look nice.





A tiger cub is a lovable kitty,
Its home is China's northeast.
Though it's little, better not fiddle,
For it's still a ferocious beast.



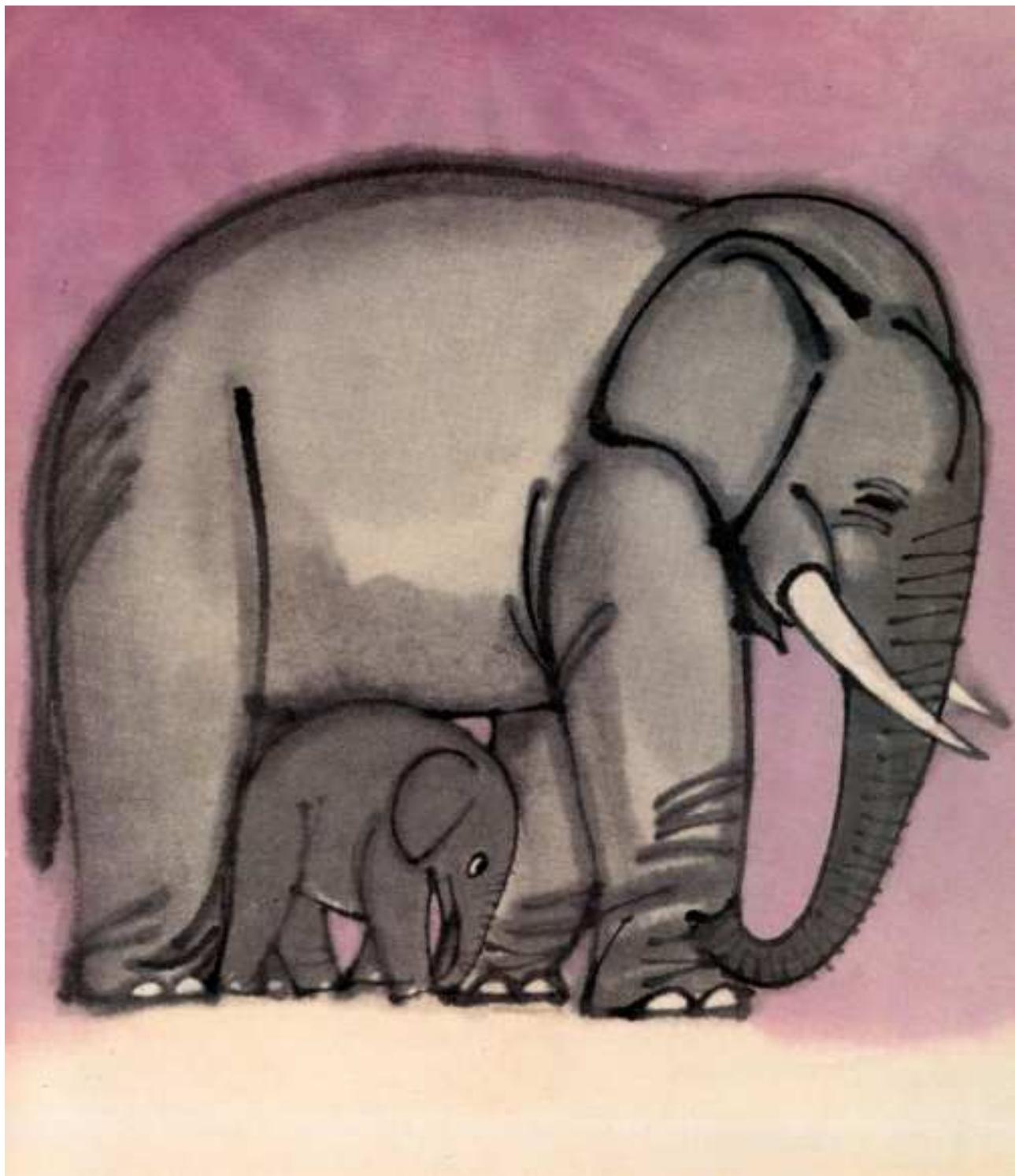


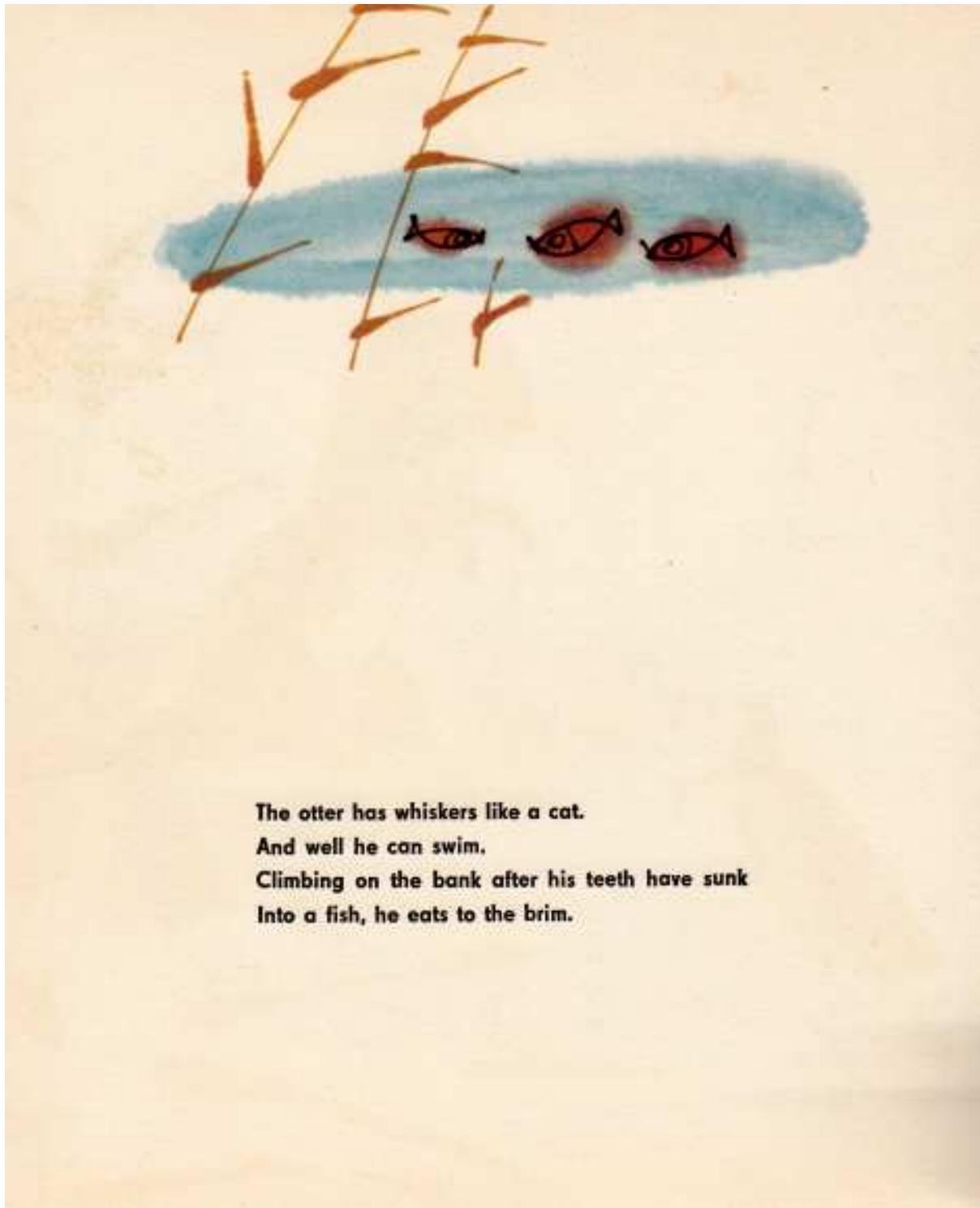
The elegant zebra in striped coat
Is wonderful to see.
In black and white he's quite a sight,
But hides in the shadow of a tree.



The elephant is great in strength,
Tigers and lions hold him in fear.
His trunk he swings, and down it brings,
A great big old hardwood tree.







The otter has whiskers like a cat.
And well he can swim.
Climbing on the bank after his teeth have sunk
Into a fish, he eats to the brim.



The water in the stream flows clear,
Little racoon's particular about dust,
He washes his fish to make a fine dish,
Then eats it in high spirits.







